III Cosideration and passing of the National Jute Board Bill, 2006, after it is passed by Lok Sabha.	Two Hours

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STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the nineteenth report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, I beg to make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Ninetieth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the twenty-second report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Coal and Steel

रसायन और उवर्रक मंत्री तथा इस्पात मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं विभाग-संबंधित कोयला और इस्पात संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के बाईसवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूं।

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the forty-first, forty-second, forty-sixth and fifty-second reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committe on Finance

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of the House a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Forty-first, Forty-second, Forty-sixth and Fifty-second Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance.

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the nineteenth report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committe on Energy

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): With your permission, Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Vilas Muttemwar, I beg to lay on the Table of the House a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Nineteenth Report of the Department-related parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy.

Status of Implementation of Recommendations Contained in the Fifteenth Report of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): With your permission, Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri B.K. Handique, I beg to lay on the Table of the House a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fifteenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Revival of M/s. Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels by way of its take over by BHEL

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I rise to draw the attention of the House and the Government to the news of recent Cabinet approval to the financial restructuring of the premier public sector engineering company, M/s Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Ltd., BHPV at Vishakhapatnam which I could learn from the release of the Press Information Bureau dated 26th November, 2007 from the PIB website. The package envisages writing off and waiving off the loans and liabilities of BHPV by the Government of India, and take over of BHPV by BHEL, and an investment of Rs. 275 crores by BHEL in BHPV. That is a good news. But, thereafter, certain disturbing incident has taken place. The concerned press note of 26th November, 2007 has been silently withdrawn from the Press Information Bureau's website, and now, it is in the air that the issue of writing off of loans and liabilities by the Government of India for BHPV has been reopened again, and the matter would be renegotiated between the Ministry of Heavy Industries and the Ministry of Finance. On inquiry from the PIB, we came to know that the release was withdrawn by instructions from above. I urge upon the Government to clarify as to why and under what circumstances the PIB release dated 26th November, 2007 has been silently withdrawn. The manner in which it has taken place, lacks transparency and smacks of a conspiracy. When the private sector takes over a sick public sector unit, all its loans and liabilities are waived off and the Government grant huge concessions besides, handing over that sick public sector company almost free of cost. But when a healthy public sector unit takes over a sick public sector unit, on that, the loans and liabilities are sought to be imposed on the healthy public sector unit who is taking over. So, this is a very bad practice and the manner in which the whole thing was handled, smacks of a conspiracy against the most healthy and ideal practice taken up by the UPA Government, that is, revival of sick public sector PSU by another healthy public sector PSU in view of the huge fund position of the healthy public sector unit from with in I want a clarification as to why that PIB release was withdrawn from the website and whether the Cabinet approval announced by the PIB on 26th November, 2007 will be implemented by the Government. That assurance I want from the Government.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir I associate.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu) Sir, I also associate.

Decision of the Gulf Countries to send Indian workers back and punishment awarded to some Indians working there

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY((Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I am raising an urgent and important issue pertaining to the poor people who are stranded in UAE and other Gulf countries. Sir, I have been raising this issue since the last Session. Even today, about 40,000 people have been stranded in UAE and other Gulf countries and the dead line of 2nd November, 2007 is also over. The local authorities are harassing the people to get back to